Seattle Department of Transportation

sdot

CAM

Client Assistance Memo

2307

sdot

Seattle Permits

— part of a multi-departmental City of Seattle series on getting a permit

Public Notice Posting for Street Trees

Effective 1/1/2012

The City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) requires posting for street trees as public notice regarding the preservation of and /or removal and replacement of existing trees in the public Right-of-Way (ROW).

PROTECT TREE POSTING

SDOT requires the protection and preservation of existing healthy trees in the ROW as a standard. Placards are posted to enforce this standard for trees adjacent to construction activities. Trees to be retained and protected must be posted with PROTECT TREE placards (see reverse for posting standards).

Variances from standard tree retention requirements may be allowed by SDOT Urban Forestry as a component of a construction project permit based on the health of the tree or conditions on site or in the ROW warranting relocation or removal and replacement.

REMOVAL / REPLACEMENT POSTING

When removal of a tree from the ROW is allowed, a yellow TREE REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT notice or safety orange TREE REMOVAL notice is required. Placards are provided by SDOT and must be posted a minimum of 2 weeks (10 working days) prior to removal as a condition of permit issuance.

City of Seattle Standard Plans and Specifications: http://www.seattle.gov/util/engineering/standard_plans_&_specs/index.asp Specification 2-02.3(3)I
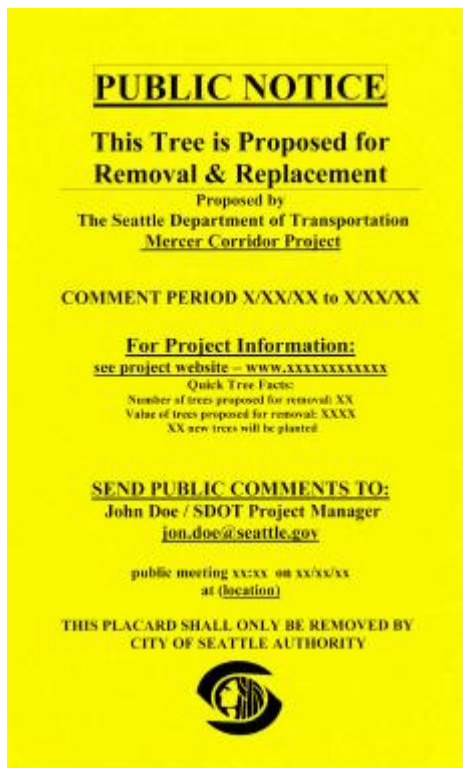
www.seattle.gov/transportation

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Seattle Department of Transportation

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DESIGN PHASE POSTING

Project applications proposing removal of trees from the ROW reviewed by SDOT Urban Forestry may be required to post the public notice identifying the tree (or trees) during the project design process (typically between 30% and 60% design completion).

Posting may be required during the design phase of projects to ensure public awareness and/or opportunity for comment as condition of the project permit process. Placards are developed and posted by (or by the project as directed by) SDOT Urban Forestry. Design phase posting encourages communication with the public regarding the project proposal so that tree removal can be considered in conjunction with other project impacts, both positive and negative, on adjacent properties and the neighborhood prior to final design and permitting.

POSTING STANDARDS

All placards are to be posted in plastic sleeves with transparent packaging tape for a secure, weather-resistant installation that is not harmful to the tree. Trees larger than 24" in diameter may require 2 placards for optimum visibility during the posting period.

Trees in the ROW adjacent to the project are to be posted concurrently with either PROTECT TREE or REMOVAL and REPLACEMENT placards for clear differentiation by the public.

Tree protection measures are required per City of Seattle Standard Specifications - Division 1 and Division 8. Trees posted for protection are subject to review and approval by SDOT prior to project mobilization for construction. Protection measures are to be maintained throughout the construction phase until PROTECT TREE placards are removed by SDOT.

RESOURCES:
SDOT Urban Forestry: 206-684-TREE
SDOT Street Use – phone - 206-684-5283
SU Webpage:
http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/stuse_permits.htm

City of Seattle Standard Plans and Specifications:
http://www.seattle.gov/util/engineering/standard_plans_&_specs/index.asp   See plans 132A, 132B and 133.